

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2018

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, Chairman, David McTigue, Michael Bara, Karen Miller, Lisa Oden, Matt Oliveira, Kleta Dudley (SoRLAC Rep), Lori Rautiola

ABSENT: Jack Messe

The meeting was called to order at the Town Office on August 8, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of the July 11, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes. Lisa seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Trails: Bob stated he and David installed the sign for the Williams property, adding the total cost for the sign was just under \$100 and to keep the cost per sign in mind for the upcoming budget. David mentioned the Nussdorfer sign would be the next one to be installed.

Lands: Bob stated he received some requests for trail maps of Conservation Lands. Lori noted many people come to the Town Office looking for trail maps and it would be helpful to have them available on the Town website as well. Matt mentioned he had produced descriptions of the trail maps years ago and stated he would email them to Lori. It was noted the Commission would start to format an updated version of trail maps.

Old Business:

The Commission reviewed the Land Criteria Worksheet and continued to make necessary changes. Bob stated it is important to use the evaluation worksheet when determining whether or not the Commission should purchase land because it shows the Commission is impartial. The Commission discussed how to determine the value of a potential conservation land and Bob stated when the Commission goes through the criteria on the worksheet it will aid in determining the value of a land. Bob questioned if property with an easement should have the same criteria as property with no easement. Members agreed it should have the same criteria whether it was purchased, donated or there is an easement. There was discussion on whether or not land should be purchased if maintenance was needed up front. Matt stated that was not an important aspect when evaluating a property, adding a small amount of maintenance should not determine whether or not the Commission purchases the land or not. Bob disagreed and gave an example; stating if the Commission were to purchase a property with a class VI road through the middle of it and OHRVs are going to be using the road, the Commission would need to make a decision to accept it or prohibit it. If prohibited, it would be very hard to enforce. Karen stated it is not in the Commission's purview to enforce.

Final changes were discussed and Bob stated he would update the new changes to the worksheet. It was noted when evaluating a property the Commission will visit the property, each member will fill out a worksheet and then discuss and vote as a Commission.

New Business: Bob recapped the discussion on building permits from the July 11th meeting. He continued stating the Commission needs to come up with a proposal for the Selectmen to get wetland information on the building permit.

Matt made a motion to reimburse Bob \$96.55 for the material he spent on the sign for the Williams property. Lisa seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

It was noted the Commission will not meet in September and the next meeting will be the annual meeting on October 10, 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Rautiola